B1 cancel that the level of noise produced by said motor is adjusted when said one of said phase modules is moved relative to said stator.

B2 3. (Amended) The variable reluctance motor of claim 1 wherein said stator is spaced from said first and second phase modules by corresponding air gaps, said air gaps changing size as the position of the first and second phase modules is adjusted relative to said stator, thereby adjusting the level of noise produced by said motor.

4. (Amended) The variable reluctance motor of claim 1 wherein said positioning system comprises at least one shaft that extends from the at least one first phase module, and a second shaft extending from the at least one second phase module, each said shaft carrying at least one positioning member configured to contact said stator such that the position of said at least one first phase module and said at least one second phase module is adjusted relative to said stator.

5. (Amended) The variable reluctance motor of claim 4 wherein said positioning members comprise stator guide bearings, said stator guide bearings being rotatable relative to said stator.

B3 8. (Amended) A variable reluctance motor comprising:

at least one phase unit comprising first and second phase modules, said first and second phase modules positioned opposite and spaced apart from each other;

a stator extending between said first and second phase modules such that a gap is formed between said stator and each opposing phase modules; and

at least one positioning system configured to contact and move at least one of the phase modules relative to the stator to adjust the size of said gaps thereby adjusting the level of

B3 Cancel. noise produced by the motor, said at least one positioning system comprising flexible bearing shafts each supporting at least one stator engaging member.

Please add claims 19-23.

B4

19. A variable reluctance motor comprising:

a phase assembly comprising first and second terminal end surfaces, at least one first phase module, at least one second phase module, said at least one first phase module facing said at least one second phase module, and at least one stator positioning system; and

a stator extending between said first and second phase modules, wherein said at least one stator positioning system comprises at least one shaft integrally connected with one of said phase modules and at least one stator positioning member for contacting said stator and adjusting the position of said one of said phase modules relative to said stator such that the level of noise produced by said motor is altered.

20. The variable reluctance motor of claim 19 wherein said phase modules and said at least one stator positioning system are located between said first and second terminal end surfaces.

21. The variable reluctance motor of claim 19 wherein said at least one positioning system includes a plurality of shafts each carrying two stator positioning members.

22. The variable reluctance motor of claim 19 wherein said shaft is flexible.

23. The variable reluctance motor of claim 22 wherein said shaft is flexible in a direction that extends perpendicular to a length of said stator.